

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEGRAM

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31 PH, 74
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AmEmbassy Mexico City

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E.O. 11652:

N/A

21 FEB 74 P R 220131Z 7

TAGS:

PFOR, OCON, XM, MX

SUBJECT:

MFM: Inaugural Session, Conference of Tlatelolco

ACTION:

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO:

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

POL-3

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Department pass ARA diplomatic posts at discretion.

DCM

1. The inaugural session of that portion of the Conference
of Tlatelolco involving participation of Secretary Kissinger

ECON

began on schedule, with brief opening remarks by Foreign

ADM

Secretary Rabasa who asked Secretary Kissinger and

USIS

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Arenales Catalán to escort

PR

President Echeverria into the conference hall. Delegates,

DEF

the diplomatic corps, high-ranking Mexican officials, other

CG

invitees and the press were present in large numbers, although
CHRON USDEL
S/S-15 the conference hall was not filled.

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2. Highlights of Echeverria's speech (approximately 25

minutes) were as follows:

(a) He viewed the meeting as evidence of common desire to
begin "different stage of coexistence" in hemisphere, though*h*

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[redacted] neither objectives nor problems involved are new.

Noting urgency of re-stating assumptions and methods of the Inter-American System, he expressed belief nonetheless in efficacy of dialogue. He warned against confusing history with anecdotes or good intentions and saw hemispheric problems as structural in nature. Echeverria said best doctrines of Pan Americanism had been frustrated by "real forces"; "territorial plundering, armed aggression, intervention, restrictions to exercise of ~~sovereignty~~ sovereignty over natural resources, barriers against forming participation in world affairs" -- all ~~part~~ part of "economic and geopolitical design for hemispheric domination."

(b) Possibilities for change in hemispheric relations exist because widespread economic crisis makes "more ~~equitable~~ equitable interdependence necessary" and because of "explosive nature of problems that have accumulated in Latin America."

(c) Latin America forms part of Third World. Historical cycle after World War II is ending and "schemes for hegemony", closed spheres of influence, neo-colonial wars are being transcended by problems heralding 21st century. Energy crisis simply a symptom of profound imbalance of international economy.

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(d) Alluding to Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, Echeverria termed it "an instrument which, through compulsory norms for economic behavior, will provide a framework of cooperation for equitable development." Charter will recognize state's jurisdiction to dispose of natural resources, including expropriation and nationalization, with controversies arising therefrom for exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the state in question. (Applause.) Echeverria continued with comments and on multinational corporations, channeling of present arms expenditures into development. It is irrational, he said, to restrict our peoples to a role as producers of raw materials.

(e) Latin America "should not confine itself to inertia of hemispheric relations which often prolong ancient servitudes and decrease multiple choices offered by open exchanges with the whole world." Echeverria concluded calling for elimination of "assumed geopolitical determinism", for establishing bases for sincere cooperation, and for exercise of "militant solidarity" of Third World in hemisphere. (Applause.)

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3. Colombian Foreign Minister Alfredo Vazquez Carrizosa in longest (35 minutes) speech of session touched upon most of eight points of Bogota. Among highlights of his talk were following:

- (a) Economic uncertainties are predominant issues of this era. This conference may signify fundamental turning point in hemispheric politics.
- (b) Charter of Economic Rights is destined to be "code of moral conduct" in community of countries at different levels of development.
- (c) Coexistence of two areas of wealth and poverty "definitely threaten world peace".
- (d) Latin America agrees with demands of Third World countries. Just as LA finally won from U.S. acceptance of non-intervention principle, we must now seek conditions of justice and cooperation in socio-economic fields. LA has had occasion in recent years to question just what is "special relationship" with U.S.
- (e) New US-LA relations call for regional security concept which takes into account factor of economic insecurity.
- (f) Confrontation was strategy of cold war. "Dialogue" is an institution characteristic of detente, an

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[redacted] institution which has found in Dr. Kissinger "a statesman imbued with faith and an unfaltering determination to obtain results based on reality." (Applause.)

(g) Colombia is proud of its role in bringing about conference. It was "our wish that there be no exceptions to Latin American unity, that in future it should include all sovereign nations of this continent."

4. Secretary's address (25 minutes) is being forwarded septel. Full texts of President's and Colombian Foreign Minister's addresses will be pouched.

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